



Navy Sediments:

Where Do Risk Managers Go From Here?

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Navy's Role In Evaluating Risk

- The Navy views risk from a broad perspective including:
 - human health and ecological risks,
 - risks associated with remedy implementation,
 - use of the DQO process to better manage risk of making incorrect decisions, and
 - financial risks associated with actions based on minimal site risk or unrepresentative site data.



Current Challenges

- Balancing site sediment risk against risk of implementing sediment remedial actions.
- Developing study designs that consider individual sediment site's technical and socioeconomic drivers.
- Addressing sediment background (atmospheric fallout, non-point sources, anthropogenic background).
- Adequacy of current technologies for sediment investigation and remediation.



Navy's Approach for Resolving Sediment Risk Management Issues

- Place strong emphasis on project team development, project planning, and study design.
- Stress the importance of considering risk management issues throughout the site assessment process.
- Recognize that risk assessments are a process used in the site investigation, and that information obtained from the risk assessment is only one tool for the risk manager to use when balancing decisions.



Navy's Approach (Continued)

- Make full use of project manager's site knowledge and historical data in the design and implementation of site investigations.
- Ensure that remedial actions are site-specific and based upon risk.
- Discuss and reach agreements regarding data interpretation methods early in the risk evaluation process.



Navy Path Forward - Overarching Issues

- Identify administrative and technical issues hindering technical progress.
- Develop a multi-agency forum for the advancement of sediment issues.



Path Forward - Overarching Issues (Continued)

- Recognize the importance of risk management considerations during risk assessment.
 - Knowledge of risk management options helps frame risk questions, and ensure relevant and appropriate data are collected to support risk management negotiations.



Path Forward - Administrative Issues

- Project planning, implementation and reporting must seek a balance between quality, cost, and schedule.
- Senior-level managers need to advocate innovation and creativity in the application of remedial technologies.
- Risk and senior managers need to maintain an awareness of current and future obstacles to progress.



Path Forward - Technical Issues

- Understanding and managing the consequence of risk impacts based on multiple lines of evidence **findings** and on **magnitude** of risk impact is crucial for selecting appropriate remedial actions and reaching agreement.

